TISH & RICHARDSON P.C.

Application Number

09/782,794

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ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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Title

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 3738

Examiner: Javier G. Blanco

NOV 2 0 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Yamamoto, et al. 09/782,794

February 13, 2001

BONE GRAFTING MATRIX

BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

This is in response to the Final Office Action of September 24, 2002. A response is due ov. 22, 2002 by December 24, 2002. This response is being submitted within two months of the final rejection.

Please amend the claim as follows:

In the claims:

19. (Twice amended): A method of bone repair comprising the step of applying a composition comprising a porous, biodegradable, three-dimensionally stable matrix having shape retention comprising a bound network of water-insoluble mineralized biopolymer having mineral immobilized thereon and a water-insoluble binder, effective to promote bone growth at a desired site of bone repair.

REMARKS

Claims 19, 20, 24 and 25 are in the application. Claim 19 has been amended. No claim is allowed.

Claims 19, 20, 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being clearly anticipated by Rhee et al. (U.S. 5,264,214). The Examiner states that Rhee discloses a method of

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